AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (previously presented): An image transmitting device comprising:

combining process means for generating a composite image by joining a plurality of original images;

storing means for storing the composite image generated by the combining process means and the original images that the composite image comprises together with corresponding combining data required for generating the composite image; and

selection process means for selecting one or more of the composite image, original images, or combining data as output data based on an output destination device specified as the destination for image transmission,

wherein the selection process means further comprises (a) or (b):

(a) selecting output data based on predetermined attributes of the output destination device;

(b) selecting output data based on an output data selection table that associates identification data for a plurality of destination devices with various output or non-output data of the composite image, original image, and combining data.

Claims 2-3   (canceled).

4.   (previously presented): An image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the

selection process means executes the selection process based on user specifications.

5.   (previously presented): An image transmitting method comprising:

a composite process step for generating a composite image by joining a plurality of

original images;

a storing step for storing the composite image generated by the combining process means

and the original images that the composite image comprises together with corresponding

composite data required for generating the composite image; and

a selection process step for selecting one or more of the composite image, original

images, or combining data as output data based on an output destination device specified as the

destination for image transmission,

wherein the selection process further comprises (a) or (b):

(a) selecting output data based on predetermined attributes of the output destination

device;

(b) selecting output data based on an output data selection table that associates

identification data for a plurality of destination devices with various output or non-output data of

the composite image, original image, and combining data.

Claims 6-7   (canceled).

8.   (previously presented): An image transmitting method as recited in claim 5, wherein the

selection process in the selection process step is executed based on user specifications.

Claims 9-16   (canceled).

17.   (currently amended): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the selection process means <u>automatically</u> executes the selection process to selectively output one of original images and combining data and composite images based on properties of the output destination device.

18.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the storage means comprises a single physical storage device.

19.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the storage means is a harddisk.

20.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the original images are obtained from at least one of ultrasound diagnostic equipment, magnetic resonance scanners, computed tomography scanners, and computed radiography scanners.

21.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the selection process means executes the selection process to selectively output two of original images and combining data and composite images based on properties of the output destination device.

22.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the

selection process means determines whether to transmit the combining data based on the output

destination device specified.

23.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the

selection process means determines whether to transmit the combining data based on the

characteristics of the output destination device specified.

24.   (previously presented): The image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein the

selection process means selects 2 of the following 3 for output to the output destination device

specified:

1) the composite image,

2) original images, or

3) combining data.

25.   (previously presented): An image transmitting device comprising:

        combining process means for generating a composite image by joining a plurality of

original images;

        storing means for storing the composite image generated by the combining process means

and the original images that the composite image comprises together with corresponding

combining data required for generating the composite image; and

selection process means for selecting one or more of the group comprising: the composite

image, the original images, or the combining data as output data based on an output destination

device specified as the destination for image transmission.

26.   (new): An image transmitting device as recited in claim 1, wherein if the original images

are output, they are output as separate images.